

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A roof rail for a motor vehicle roof, said roof rail comprising:

an elongated main body portion including an open channel extending between opposing first and second ends; [[and]]

an end portion integrally formed with said main body portion at each of said first and second ends thereof for attaching said roof rail to the motor vehicle roof; and

a mid-mount disposed within said open channel and secured to said main body portion at a location between said opposing first and second ends thereof for preventing deformation of said main body portion as a load is applied thereto.

2. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 1 wherein said main body portion is injection molded from an organic resin material reinforced with long glass fibers.

3. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 2 wherein said organic resin material is a thermoplastic material.

4. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 3 wherein said main body portion includes a pair of spaced apart outer walls and a connecting wall extending therebetween defining said open channel.

5. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 4 wherein said main body portion is generally C-shaped.

6. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 5 wherein said thermoplastic material is polypropylene.

7. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 6 wherein said polypropylene is reinforced with approximately 20 to 40% by weight long glass fibers.

8. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 7 wherein said long glass fibers in said roof rail have a length of approximately 4-50 mm.

9. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 8 wherein said polypropylene is reinforced with approximately 40% by weight long glass fibers.

10. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 9 including an end cap fixedly secured to each of said end portions for providing said roof rail with an aesthetically pleasing appearance.

11. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 10 including a clip for connecting said end cap to one of said end portions.

12. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 10 wherein said end cap is integrally formed with each of said end portions for providing said roof rail with an aesthetically pleasing appearance.

13. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 12 wherein each of said end portions includes a bottom surface and an outboard wall extending upwardly therefrom.

14. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 13 wherein said bottom surface includes a plurality of mounting apertures extending therethrough.

15. (Original) A roof rail as set forth in claim 14 wherein each of said end portions includes a loop structure for providing a tie down point in order to secure articles to said roof rail.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A roof rail as set forth in claim [[16]] 1 wherein said mid-mount is integrally formed with said main body portion.

18-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) A roof rail for a motor vehicle roof, said roof rail comprising:

an elongated main body portion including an open channel extending between opposing first and second ends, said main body portion ~~[[and]]~~ having a reinforcement structure integrally molded ~~therewith~~ within said open channel; ~~[[and]]~~

a mid-mount, wherein said reinforcement structure includes at least one aperture for receiving a fastener to secure said mid-mount to said main body portion; and

an end portion integrally formed with said main body portion at each of said first and second ends thereof for attaching said roof rail to the motor vehicle roof.

23. (Currently amended) A roof rail as set forth in claim 22 wherein said main body portion includes a pair of spaced apart outer walls and a connecting wall extending therebetween, said pair of outer walls and said connecting wall defining said open channel.

24. (Currently amended) A roof rail as set forth in claim 23 wherein ~~said pair of outer walls and said connecting wall define an open channel for housing~~ said reinforcement structure therewithin extends between said pair of outer walls.

25. (New) A roof rail for a motor vehicle roof, said roof rail comprising:

an elongated main body portion including an open channel extending in a longitudinal direction between opposing first and second ends, said main body portion including a pair of laterally spaced apart walls and a connecting wall extending therebetween defining said open channel;

a reinforcement structure integrally molded within said open channel, said reinforcement structure extending in a lateral direction between said pair of laterally spaced apart walls, and said reinforcement structure including at least one aperture;

a mid-mount secured to said reinforcement structure with a fastener extending through said mid-mount into said at least one aperture; and

an end portion integrally formed with said main body portion at each of said first and second ends thereof for attaching said roof rail to the motor vehicle roof.